

# THE GRAND RIVER TIMES.

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME CIRCLE: INDEPENDENT ON ALL SUBJECTS.

VOL. VI. NO. 52.

EASTMANVILLE, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1857.

WHOLE NO. 312.

## THE GRAND RIVER TIMES.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING.

EASTMANVILLE, MICHIGAN.

EASTMAN & CO., PROPRIETORS.

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Two weeks.	751 503 25	3	3 25	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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## BUSINESS DIRECTORY-1857.

### AUGUSTUS W. TAYLOR.

Judge of Probate for Ottawa county, Michigan. Office with the County Treasurer, Grand Haven. Papers and business communications transmitted to the Court, through favor of H. D. Post, Holland, or left with Mr. Henry Brower, Grand Haven, will receive prompt attention. Court days, first and third Mondays of each month. P. O. address, Ottawa Center, Ottawa Co. Mich.

### JAMES P. SCOTT.

Clerk and Register of Ottawa county, Michigan, and Notary Public. Grand Haven.

### TIMOTHY FLETCHER.

Treasurer of Ottawa county, and Notary Public.

### CURTIS W. GRAY.

Sheriff of Ottawa county. Grand Haven.

### M. B. HOPKINS.

Prosecuting Attorney and Circuit Court Commissioner, for Ottawa county. Grand Haven.

### JAMES SAWYER.

County Surveyor. P. O. Address, Eastmanville.

### COMER B. SHAW.

Notary Public for Ottawa Co. Eastmanville.

### R. W. DUNCAN.

Attorney at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery; also Agent for obtaining Bounty Lands, and collecting claims against the United States, in connection with a general agency at Washington. Office third door below the Washington House. Grand Haven.

### GROSVENOR REED.

Attorney and Counselor at Law. All business entrusted to me will be promptly and satisfactorily attended to. Residence, Charleston Landing, Ottawa Co., Mich.

### J. B. McNETT.

Physician and Surgeon. Dr. McNett is now permanently located in this village, and will attend to all calls in his profession. Office at the residence of Mr. Hiram Bean, corner of Washington and Water streets. Grand Haven.

### STEPHEN MONROE.

Physician and Surgeon. Office one door west of J. T. Davis' Tailor shop, Washington street. Grand Haven.

### DR. L. A. ROGERS.

Surgeon Dentist. May be found during business hours, at his office, in Dr. Shepard's New Block, Monroe street. Grand Rapids, Mich.

### CUTLER & WARTS.

Dealers in Fancy and Staple Dry Goods, of all kinds, Groceries, Provisions, Crockery, Hardware, Boots and Shoes, etc., etc. Water street, Grand Haven.

### ALBEE & HUNTING.

Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Hardware, Crockery, Boots and Shoes, etc., etc. Corner of Washington and Water Streets. Grand Haven.

### HENRY GRIFFIN.

Commission Merchant and General Ag't, Dealer in Salt, Flour, Dry and Green Fruits, Provisions, Family Groceries, Drugs, Medicines, Perfumery, etc., etc. Opposite the Washington House, Grand Haven.

### W. D. FOSTER & CO.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Hard and Hollow-Ware, Iron, and Manufacturers of Tin and Sheet-Iron Ware, foot of Monroe street. Grand Rapids.

### C. DAVIS & CO.

Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Hardware, Crockery, Boots and Shoes, etc., etc. Muskegon, Mich.

### A. L. CHUBB.

Manufacturer of Plows, Cultivators and Grain Cradles, and Dealer in all kinds of Agricultural Implements and Machines. Agricultural Warehouse, Canal street. Grand Rapids.

### FERRY & CO.

Manufacturers of Lumber, and Dealers in all kinds of Merchandise, Provisions, Shingle Bolts, and Shingles. THOS. W. FERRY. NOAH H. FERRY. White River, Ottawa Co., Mich.

### HOPKINS & BROTHER.

Storage, Forwarding and Commission Merchants, General Dealers in all kinds of Dry Goods, Groceries, Grain and Provisions, Manufacturers and Dealers wholesale and retail in all kinds of lumber. Mill Point, Mich.

### LAMONT MILLS.

THOMAS B. WOODBURY, PROPRIETOR. LAMONT, OTTAWA COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Cash paid for wheat. 123 ft.

### OTTAWA IRON WORKS.

FERRISBURG, OTTAWA COUNTY, MICH. WM. M. FERRY, Jr., Manufacturer of Stationary and Marine, high or low pressure Engines, Mill Gearing, Iron and Brass Castings. Post Office address, Grand Haven, Mich.

### 1857. CUTLER & WARTS, 1857.

DEALERS IN General Merchandise, Flour, Salt, Grain, Lumber, Shingles and Lath. Water street, Grand Haven, Mich.

## Ottawa County Agricultural Society.

Address of Hon. TIMOTHY EASTMAN, delivered before the first meeting of the Ottawa County Agricultural Society, at Lamont, February 20th, 1856.

LADIES, GENTS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

Of all the states of the great Mississippi valley, Michigan is highly distinguished, perhaps, I may say unequalled, in her noble and broadcast system of general education. The generous and ample endowments appropriated for her State University, together with the liberal provision for the support of her normal and common schools, are flattering to the pride and highest anticipations of every patriotic citizen who cherishes as the dearest object of his bosom, the perpetuity of our liberal institutions of government and the continued prosperity of the republic. She too is discretely beginning to realize the necessity of fostering agriculture as an important branch of that general education—her new constitution providing for the establishment of an agricultural school, which may be made a branch of the University, with handsome support from the proceeds of twenty-two sections of salt spring lands, "and any lands which may hereafter be granted or appropriated for such purposes," shows the drift and that her motto is "to cultivate the soil and the mind."

Her staple interest is and always will be agriculture—the very existence and well-being of a very large majority of her citizens will forever be identified with the culture of the soil, "and of all the occupations which man is at liberty to follow, none adds dignity to the human character—expands the mind—elevates moral sentiment—infuses a reverence for true devotion—enlarges the sphere of human usefulness—improves the physical energies of our nature, and insures permanence and stability to free institutions, more than the pursuit of agriculture." Agriculture involves in its pursuit an art and a science; it is the basis, the motive power of all the arts, and of life too. Any effort that tends to elevate it to its proper sphere—to its relative consequence, its true place of dignity and honor—should be regarded by any people above an equal effort toward the conquest of the world to gratify their military ambition, or for the development of all the hidden treasures in the bowels of the earth. But what has been the taste of ages gone by? Ask the historian for immortal names. Cyrus, Alexander, Caesar, Tamerlane, Napoleon, is the response, and only because they have destroyed more property, more cities, desolated more lands, made more widows and orphans, and butchered more men than their fellows, and this has immortalized, deified them; ask for names, benefactors of mankind, those who have studied and multiplied the means of supporting existence, who have contrived to make two spires of grass grow where but one grew before, and echo answers *where*. The taste of the age needs be changed, it is changed in some degree; the people must hold in reverence those only as great who are good, and good because they multiply the means of existence, promoting the happiness of all around them; and compel the historian to hold up to everlasting infamy, the destroyers, oppressors and murderers of their fellows. People should be taught to see and feel their true interest as it is, to believe that he who provides bread for the millions; invents a labor-saving machine; which in the operation doubles and quadruples the crop with the same labor; inculcates the sciences with a view to benefit and advance the arts, and emulates the cultivation of the soil and the mind, should be deified; in whose honor, birthdays and feasts should be celebrated, rather than for those who have destroyed and murdered by millions.

The ancient Greeks had their divinities, the patrons of their industrial arts, Ceres, Vulcan, Bacchus, et al., to whom they paid honors by offerings and feasts, from the fruits and productions of their own peculiar province; this may be some evidence of the high estimation in which those arts were held by that—the most advanced, enlightened and refined age of the world. Yet when we find that such deities as Mars, the god of war, received from them superior homage, and that Jupiter, their father or president god, the *supremus animus*, kept Bacchus constantly employed in making wine for their drunken revelries, instead of attending to fruit culture generally; and kept Vulcan, the worker of iron, making thunder-bolts for the purposes of destruction, instead of allowing him to manufacture spade-blades, dung-forks and plough-irons, evidences that like the world ever since, they paid less deference to the patrons of their best interests, and consequently less to those interests themselves, than they did to those deities who flattered their passions, their ambition and their superstition.

The eastern horizon is just now beclouded with a belated aspect, and but recently human blood and life has been poured out like a river, the highest efforts of human power have been exerted and put forth for the destruction of humanity itself, and all for a bauble; it is now hoped that the storm is passed and that peace is about to resume her blessed empire again, and that without allowing the historian a single udder for or worthy of deification in this work of human butchery. Peace alone brings prosperity to the world, the industrial arts are then fostered, and universal knowledge extended.

The wonderful facilities for the intercommunication of the world afforded by the taming of steam and electricity, has ushered in a new era; the day is approximating when the heretofore heterogeneous and distinct races of the earth may mingle, communicate and be as one people; the exclusive barriers of self-conceit, and haughty ignorance must give way; the celestial Chinaman (or pig-tail) and the lion-crowned Briton; the bigoted muskellman, and the devoted christian, now meet, salute and acknowledge in some degree, each as an equal; this hopeful day was first ushered in by the discovery of the magnetic needle; guided by this the heretofore trackless ocean became at once the common highway of the world; it gave life to the commerce of nations, and a knowledge of people before unknown, and despised because unknown; mutual interests, mutual dependence, and mutual regards of different people and kindreds followed; the art of printing, that sheds knowledge as rays from the rising sun over the astonished millions of earth, and steam and electricity, annihilating time and distance, mingled all as one; the effect is to correct the opinions of mankind relative to each other, drive out false prejudice, and lead the world to see that universal peace is its best interest, tending to the diffusion of general knowledge, where the real advantages and improvements of one people are soon caught and given to all. China once sold for gold only her then inimitable crockery ware; no alien must put foot upon her

soil except at one little point, to receive her manufactures, but now since the door for intermingling has been opened, the Anglo-Saxon already excels her in the manufacture of crockery. The greatest good can only result to the greatest number, when the world and the people therein combine, harmonize and associate, concentrating all its knowledge, means, and energies to promote the greatest good of all.—There can be no question of the superior advantages of united over individual effort; let men associate and act together whose interests and pursuits are alike, and like the well disciplined phalanx, they will overcome all obstacles to their advancement.

Gold was announced deeply imbedded in the hills and streams of our modern (and perhaps the real) land of Ophir; an inspiration seized and prompted all men, seemingly, to new desires, expanded hopes, and the wildest dreams of the wildest ambition; associating in companies, trios, and all numbers, to seek and obtain the hidden aurean treasures—abjuring the quiet sweets of domestic life, the society of dearest friends, daring distance, fatigue, savage tortures, famine, fell disease, and almost certain death; rivers were turned and mountains leveled and compelled to yield their treasures to united effort; it evinces what may be done in a better cause, for does a bushel gold dug from the earth add as much to the true wealth of the world as the production of a bushel of potatoes? Many a volunteer in that cause has discovered when too late that it dazzles, glitters and allures but to ruin.

Such interests as have called men in close contact; the learned professions, the merchant, the mechanic, who congregate in populous cities, have long availed themselves of the benefits of associating—of coming together, comparing views, communicating knowledge, and learning of each other—where all are benefitted by the intellectual treasures of each—they have flourished and taken the lead, whereas the sparse agricultural community have not till recently entered into the spirit of associating for the purpose of maintaining an equality in that respect with the other—when really from them are derived all the substantial enjoyments and supports of life, which the others are only destined to *mend, ornament and embellish*. But union and combination in our ranks are beginning to be appreciated, notwithstanding our habits and labors are isolated among the hills and dales, upon the banks of the rivers and over the plain; associations are formed, farmers flock together and the cattle show, the stated fair is the order of these times; and the many noble specimens of animals; improved implements of husbandry; the choicest fruits and all other fine examples of the industrial arts that are brought out on these occasions, are not the most valued results of these glorious gatherings—it is the bringing of men of similar pursuits together; to converse with one another; to compare theories; their experience; their results and conclusions; these are then known to all; none are then necessarily bound by the limited tradition of what their fathers alone taught them, nor are they confined to learn these results from their own individual experience through a whole life-long life. Forget not then to assemble yourselves together; the old adage that calculation is often better than hard work is here verified. Reading and conversation are our chief avenues to knowledge, and to the latter have our farmers been indebted mostly for theirs.—Since the establishment of township libraries the opportunity for instruction by reading has been brought to every man's door; if these are well selected, if their book cases are well filled with works that are practical; that throw light upon the subjects that most regards their interests and their every day business pursuits; and neighborhood associations are formed, to discuss, criticize and scan the theories and doings of each; thereby encouraging a spirit of reading and investigation in all who participate, good results will follow. Do not be so self-confident that we know it all ourselves, that we cannot be instructed by others in some points although they may be less stored with general or technical knowledge than we are. How will the traditional man whose education has been in the exclusive individual school of a long ancestry, amid a nation of such all about him, samples of whom border the Mexican Rio Grand (and are not some fair specimens seen on the Michigan Rio Grand) who as did his fathers, harness his heifers, cows or any cattle kind by green hide chains to a sharpened forked limb for a plough, tied to a stick across the forehead of some 2 to 6 of these animals all abreast, by which establishment the surface of the ground designed for cultivation is scratched over and a farm without limit or fence is made to produce all the corn and buckwheat to keep life in four or five individuals, with whatever wild game they may contrive to shoot during the year. We repeat how will the doings of this traditional man compare with our present enlightened and scientific farmer. You find him employed in making compost heaps of manure, transferring muck, lime, refuse salt, bones, everything within his reach that possesses vegetable nutriment to his exhausted grounds or to maintain the fertility of his already productive fields, draining his wet lands by a system of under drains from 3 1/2 to 4 feet below the surface, then ploughing his lands from 2 to 3 feet in depth, getting from 2 to 3 bountiful crops from the same land annually instead of the skeleton of one; doing this with all the improved labor saving machines and implements now in use. I might go on to describe his smooth fields, his fences straight and erect, his trim barns, extensive sheds, his water works, his substantial cottage, attractive for its elegant but cheap finish and its just architectural proportions, entwined, embowered with the honeysuckle, the rose and the woodbine—his fruit and flower garden all in proper trim and regularly and symmetrically laid out. Who of us of grey hairs are not strikingly sensible of the improvement of the present over the past in the knowledge and mode of agricultural pursuits; in the plough, the cultivator, the horse rake, the cradle and the reaper; in the improved breeds of animals, horses, hogs, sheep and cattle by crossing; rotation of crops &c. All this evidences to us that some persons have given attention to these matters; they have studied, led the way. Yet these men tell us that we yet poke in the dark, both in practice, and as to the why and wherefore—the rationale of our doings. Every practical farmer needs to know something of science, of agricultural chemistry to enable him to understand his art satisfactorily; it enables him to foresee the result of his labors, it elevates him from a state of serfdom and makes him lord of his own manor. We feed animals, and know they receive their nourishment by the mouth and digestive organs; so we are satisfied that with plenty of good eating they grow well.

You may smile at this and think animal feeding is well enough understood; well perhaps so, but when we feed corn, or a willow stock, do we know how and where it eats? Put the butt end of the willow branch into a jar of clean sand and water with pure water, it will increase pounds in weight and the sand may loose scarcely grains—where then does it eat? not by its roots alone, as the sand is left, and pure water alone will not make a corn or willow stock—it must imbibe nutriment by its leaves and from the atmosphere, and science teaches and explains the fact;—nutriment to be eaten by vegetables must be converted to the liquid and gaseous state and in this latter state it escapes into the air to be again brought to the surface by the dews and rains; and science again has taught us that the richest portions of these gasses, the ammonia, is largely absorbed by sulph. lime (plaster, Paris) upon the surface or in the tilled portion of the earth, to be again slowly emitted as vegetation may require. For the right use or mode of using plaster, we are indebted to science, and to it we are indebted for our warrant for deep tillage. To the amount of vegetable food constantly in the atmosphere and to the manner in which it is and may be fixed and infused into the soil we owe the confidence that as deep as we stir the ground, as deep as the rains, the dews, the air, the light is allowed to penetrate the soil, just so deep the roots of your crop will follow down; the soil becomes rich just so deep and that without anything at your hands; and again if your grounds are kept less deep your crops will not be drowned out, for the surface water will percolate downwards, nor will they suffer from drouth as moisture will be reached deep in the earth by the roots, that of the wheat and corn stalk have been traced to the depth of 4 feet in search of nutriment and moisture. Upon a hard subsoil with a shoal surface soil you will observe your wheat or other crop grow well at first but it stops and turns yellow upon the least drouth, its roots have found a barrier to further extension. Heat, light and the air are essential to healthy vegetation, the potatoe vine will grow in the dark cellar, and grass under a board, but they lack some of the elements to a perfect growth. Science has lent its aid and lighted by it man has not only learned the elementary components of the vegetable republic but has systematized its whole economy, its months, its process of digestion, its food, its inhalations and its exhalations; the man of science will analyze your soil and knowing what every kind of a crop is composed of, what its choice food, how it should be cooked to suit its relish, will tell you in advance whether it will flourish or not, can tell you for a certainty at once without years of this grouping in the dark kind of trial, exactly what your soil needs to make any particular kind of a crop flourish on it; if any essential element is wanting, he will pronounce your crop a failure and predict right every time. We are mostly farmers here by experiment yet and must necessarily be so practically for some time hence, our green roots and stumps will keep us on the surface yet awhile; but the time will come when we will need more light in these matters, and if we commence thus early to learn the true road we may avoid many back steps in after life, let us then associate, reason one with the other, there is light in the land and the times are just now propitious.

Among the reasons or inducements for organizing a County Association at this time may be reckoned the very liberal aid held out through the beneficent providence of our venerable conscript legislators the last winter; by this provision a sum may be levied by law not exceeding 1-10 or less than 1-40 of 1 mill on the dollar of the valuation of the county, provided it may meet with favor in the eyes of the county board, and provided farther that we will tax ourselves to the amount of \$100 or more, to carry out the purposes of the society, and will file a certificate, verified by oath, with the county clerk. On examination I find this provision is an amendatory one to a law passed in 1849, and reduces the allowance from 1-10 to 1-5 of a mill to the present amount, at least 1-2 from what it was before this wise and liberal allowance was fixed. Let us be thankful for small favors; and if this is the extreme tip of the tariff wedge for the protection of the farming interest, let us apply this well, and drive it till we split or open a wider crack in the public chest. The people may in time think it better logic to protect nine of the ten than to aid the one with legal machinery to skin the nine.

The interior department of our general government are very liberally dispensing articles of exotic as well as domestic productions, that promises to be of value to all portions of our nation, suiting the article, whether it be grain of any kind, seeds, roots, grasses, scions, bulbs or flowers, to the soil and climate appropriate for its growth and perfection. Individuals of our county have already received occasional favors of this kind, and where many articles may prove failures, some may be of great value. I have a kind of corn raised last year, that I deem of great value. Had 40 hills planted in May. Ears are very long, cob small, and 8 rowed—planted near together it yields largely, and I fancy it will exceed any other kind we have in yield; and then it matures the fastest, and ripens the earliest of any corn known to me.— Shall test it fully this year. It is believed that with a county organization, we should all receive more benefit from these favors and receive them from the department with a more bountiful hand.

And let me here congratulate the people of this valley on their superior prospect for fruit growing, even beyond those living farther south, in climates; catemmed the ne plus ultra, for its production and perfection. First then for the facts. I will speak only what I know. I have had the peach tree in bearing 12 seasons; and have now from 15 to 20 acres of different varieties of other fruit trees in bearing, some 15 varieties of the plum; the nectarine, 6 or 7 of the cherry, 9 or 10 of the grape, some twenty kinds of pears, and about 60 of the apple. Only for 3 years in the 12 have the tenderer sorts of the peach been curtailed from a breakdown crop, and that by late spring frosts alone; buds of any kind have never winter killed to my knowledge; and a preventive to winter killing is the desideratum of those south of us; if we are safe from winter it is believed that our spring frosts that hit us occasionally, never as yet to cut off our entire crop, not even of all the tender sorts, will be very much mollified when the country is cleared off, and that abundant and certain crops will crown our extensive fruit-tries. The query may arise, is not all this accidental, the seasons are capricious? Go into large expense to incubate your ground, the seasons change, fruit is cut off, and you are ruined? I will take the Yankee way to reason; ask you to explain. From 20 to 30° below zero has been noticed in Chicago, Michigan City, Adrian, Detroit, Toledo, and 16° below at Cincinnati, at various times this winter, while at